

WEB SITES

About Web Sites

A Web site is a collection of Web pages—words and pictures on a topic that can be found on the Internet. Each page has its own URL, or “address.” Web sites feature underlined words and icons that serve as links to other sites or pages. You can find more information by clicking on these words.

The Web can be a wonderful tool for business or learning. You can buy, sell, or trade things on the Web. It also offers great ways to learn.

Reading Strategy

Learn how to locate appropriate information to get the most out of Internet research. Use a search engine. It will list any page on the Web that has words matching a search term you type in. Use specific words when you use a search engine. If you are looking for information on the Puritans who settled in America, search for the word Pilgrim. Too broad a term, such as colony, will give you a list that is too long.

The box below lists a few of the features found on Web sites. Not every feature will be useful. Keep your purpose in mind as you explore.

Elements of Web Sites

- **Links, hotspotted text,** and other **navigation elements** help you move around the site quickly. Click on any area of the page over which your cursor changes to a hand, and you will be brought to a linked page.
- **A SEARCH function** helps you locate information anywhere on the site, using search terms.
- **Photos, videos, and audio clips** are added to many sites. You may need to download additional software to use these resources.
- **Links** connect you to other pages within the site and to other related Web sites.
- **Contact information** tells you who sponsored the site. An e-mail address to which you may send questions or comments may be included.

Build Understanding

Knowing this term will help you understand the information on this Web site.

virtual tour (VER choo uhl TOOR) tour that is taken through a computer

TAKE NOTES

Stop to Reflect

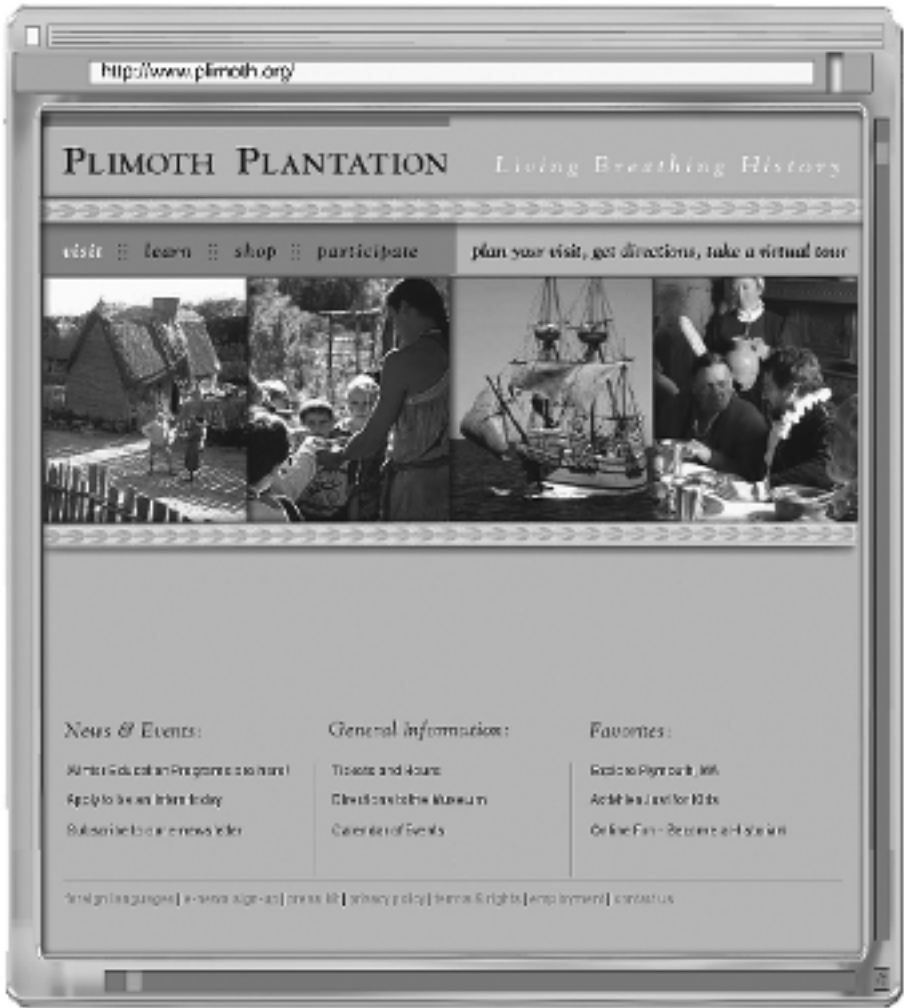
Web designers work to create home pages that look good so that visitors will want to explore the site further. Do you think the designers of this site were successful? Why or Why not?

Reading Web Pages

The words at the top of the pictures contain information. Circle the link you would click on if you wanted to get directions to Plimoth Plantation.

Reading Strategy

A Web site's home page often contains many links to other pages within the site. These links help you find **appropriate information**. Links can be text or images. Circle the text link that will tell you how to contact the site's sponsor, Plimoth Plantation.



Stop to Reflect

Why do you think the navigation bar, which is bracketed, appears not just on the home page but also on this interior page?

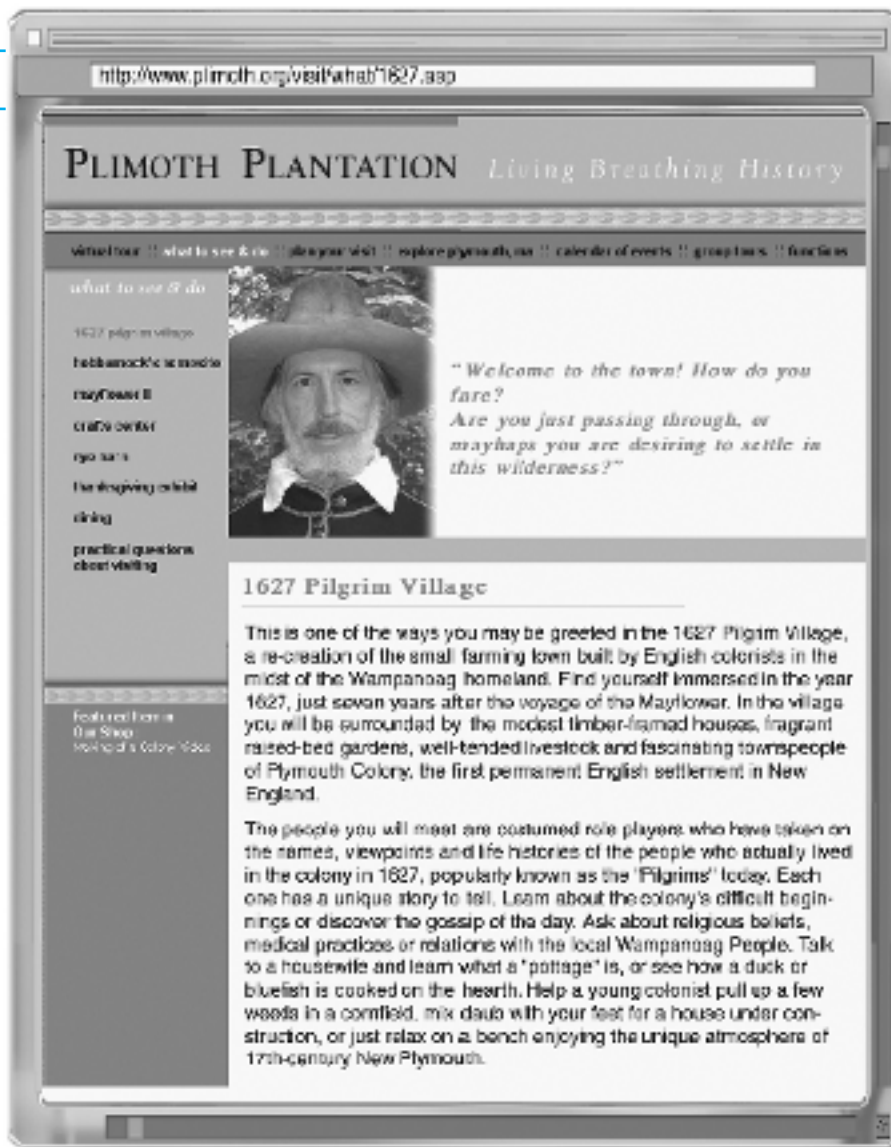
Reading Strategy

Circle the text you would click on if you wanted to **locate information** about the Mayflower II.

Reading Informational Materials

List five key words you could use to access this **Web Site**.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



APPLY THE SKILLS

THINKING ABOUT THE WEB SITE

1. What should you do to get the Web site's information in Spanish?

2. Why are pictures on the home page used as links?

READING STRATEGY

3. How can you use the Web site to buy books about seventeenth-century New England?

4. On the home page, under what category do you find a link to Plimoth Plantation's calendar of events?

TIMED WRITING: EVALUATION (20 minutes)

Use this cluster diagram to brainstorm the features of a well-organized Web site. Think about the features of a Web site, such as links, hotspotted text, photos, videos, and SEARCH functions. Does the Web site offer these things? Use the cluster diagram to write your evaluation.

